

The way I see it, that contract was already full of holes.

Remember the Republican tax plan or their balanced budget amendment? Right where you thought they would tell you how to pay for it, there was a big, gaping hole.

And they had special kinds of holes for different people.

If you are a working family, trying to raise your kids, there is a sinkhole for your wages to fall into, but if you are looking for a capital gains cut, there is a nice loophole for you.

And you know those blackholes in outer space, those things that stuff gets sucked into and nothing comes out of? It turns out you do not need the Hubble telescope to see them.

Because the Republicans' cuts in home heating assistance for the elderly and child nutrition for the country's babies are a blackhole that is going to pull people into poverty and pain where they will never be heard from again.

So, Mr. Speaker, instead of getting a hole puncher, you should have used something to patch up the holes that were already in your contract from day one.

REPUBLICAN CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

(Mr. RIGGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, our Contract With America states the following:

On the first day of Congress, a Republican House will require Congress to live under the same laws as everyone else; cut committee staffs by one-third; and cut the congressional budget. We kept our promise.

It continues that in the first 100 days, we will vote on the following items: A balanced budget amendment—we kept our promise; unfunded mandates legislation—we kept our promise; line-item veto—we kept our promise; a new crime package to stop violent criminals—we kept our promise; national security restoration to protect our freedoms—we kept our promise; Government regulatory reform—we kept our promise; common sense legal reform to end frivolous lawsuits—we kept our promise; welfare reform to encourage work, not dependence—we kept our promise; congressional term limits to make Congress a citizen legislature—we kept our promise; family reinforcement, tax cuts for middle-income families, and the Senior Citizens' Equity Act to allow our seniors to work without Government penalty—we kept our promise.

Mr. Speaker, this is the Republican Contract With America.

IRS AND THE BURDEN OF PROOF

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the IRS actually had the gall to tell Congress, "If you change the burden of proof in a tax case, you will destroy our voluntary-compliance program." Right. Some kind of voluntary. Who is kidding whom?

If you do not voluntarily pay your voluntary taxes, the IRS will come in and voluntarily take your parakeet, your beagle, your golf clubs, your wife, your rubber ducky. Beam me up here. Voluntary?

Ladies and gentlemen, are they smoking dope around here or what?

My bill will say you have to substantiate your tax form, but when you go to court, you will be treated like an American citizen, innocent until proven guilty.

Voluntary? My assets.

WHAT ABOUT FOREIGN AID?

(Mr. FUNDERBURK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, the first 100 days of the 104th Congress are over. We passed 9 of the 10 items in the Contract With America. The new majority set our country on a new course. But we did not go far enough. While we are at home for Easter, the Mexican dictatorship and New York City financiers will be raking in billions of American dollars and the lords in the Kremlin will be soaking up foreign aid while their planes ravage Chechnya and their scientists provide the Aya-tollahs with nuclear reactors.

Mr. Speaker, we desperately need a reality check. How can we seriously debate the future of student loans and farm programs while the State Department and the World Bank dispense billions of our dollars without the Congress saying one word? The \$20 billion handout to Mexico City is 20 times the value of the yearly tobacco crop in North Carolina. Is it not tragic that Bill Clinton and his establishment friends in Congress will drag hard-working tobacco farmers in my district through the wringer and give Mexican thugs and Russian autocrats billions of our money with a wink and a nod?

Mr. Speaker, if last November really was a revolution we had better come back here in May and cut off the foreign aid monster at its knees or the American people will put us out in the street.

TAX FAIRNESS

(Mr. VOLKMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Speaker, Members of the House, today is the 92d day of the imperial speakership.

You know, yesterday afternoon, discussing with one of the Gingrich Republicans about their tax bill, I advised them that I did not plan to vote for that tax bill. I planned to vote against it. He says, "You must be brave to be

able to go back to your district after voting against such a great tax bill."

Well, in the first place, I said, "I don't think that is a great tax bill. Second thing, it has no tax fairness in it. It doesn't lead to deficit reduction, but it explodes the deficit in out years."

I advised that Gingrich Republican I was going to vote for the Gephardt tax bill which limited the \$500 child credit to those earning \$95,000, not \$200,000. You know, in my district, the Ninth District in Missouri, middle income is not \$200,000. I do not have very many people earning \$200,000. Yet the Gingrich Republican says \$200,000 are middle income. They say that corporations should not have to pay any taxes here in the United States.

I say corporations should pay their fair taxes.

I voted for a tax fairness yesterday.

PROUD TO BE A PART OF THE CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, today is a great day on the Potomac.

This is the Contract With America, and even though a New York newspaper tells us only 38 percent of the people know what the Contract With America is, all of them know what a balanced-budget amendment is, all of them know what a real crime package is that punishes criminals instead of giving them dance lessons, all of them know what welfare reform is, and on down the line including the tax-relief package passed last night that restores hope to people with families, gives them a break, because we believe that people who have children know better how to spend that money on their children than the Federal Government does here in the beltway.

So we are very pleased to be part of this Contract With America, to see all 10 pieces passed as promised. It will be the first Congress to say we are going to do something during a campaign and then actually do it when they get to Washington.

I am very proud to restore hope to the next generation and to this generation, to be a part of this Congress and pass the Contract With America.

CONGRESS MUST BE TOLD WHAT IS IN LEGISLATION

(Mrs. SCHROEDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, I stand in this well to admit that I was wrong, and I must correct my remarks. I have been here several times protesting the \$63 million that we heard Rupert Murdoch got slipped into the bill that was to give relief to middle Americans on their health care coverage. Well, I find out it is not \$63 million, it is more like \$38 million.